

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217579  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WSMITH:LL

APPROVED BY P:PHABIB

NEA:ALATHERTONJR.

S/S-O:JTHYDEN

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O 112212Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217579

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN, XF

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REPLY BY PRESS SPOKESMAN TO QUESTION ON  
U.S. POSITION ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CON-  
FERENCE

1. UNDER SECRETARY HABIB CALLED IN AMBASSADOR DINITZ  
AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 11 TO INFORM HIM THAT (A) WE HAVE  
BEEN RECEIVING QUESTIONS ABOUT WHY U.S. IS PAYING SO MUCH  
ATTENTION TO PLO AND PALESTINIANS IN OUR CURRENT MIDDLE  
EAST PEACE EFFORTS AND HOW PLO CAN BE PARTY TO GENEVA  
CONFERENCE WHEN IT HAS NOT ACCEPTED RESOLUTION 242, AND  
(B) IN RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN  
WILL MAKE FOLLOWING RESPONSE AT PRESS BRIEFING MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 12.

2. BEGIN TEXT. "ALONG WITH THE ISSUES OF THE NATURE OF  
PEACE, RECOGNITION, SECURITY, AND BORDERS, THE STATUS OF  
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THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE SETTLED IN A COMPREHENSIVE ARAB-  
ISRAELI PEACE AGREEMENT. THIS ISSUE CANNOT BE IGNORED IF  
THE OTHERS ARE TO BE SOLVED.

MOREOVER, TO BE LASTING, A PEACE AGREEMENT MUST BE POSI-  
TIVELY SUPPORTED BY ALL OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT,  
INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS. THIS MEANS THAT THE PALESTIN-

IAN'S MUST BE INVOLVED IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS. THEIR

REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE TO BE AT GENEVA FOR THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION TO BE SOLVED.

AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, THE UNITED STATES HAS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSURING THE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE. WE HAVE THEREFORE BEEN EXPLORING WITH THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA A NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVES WITH REGARD TO THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PALESTINIANS IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

WITH RESPECT TO UN RESOLUTION 242, ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE TERMS OF THAT RESOLUTION AND RESOLUTION 338, WHICH PRESENTLY FORM THE ONLY AGREED BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS." END TEXT.

3. DINITZ SAID HE FEARED ABOVE TEXT WOULD LEAD TO IMPRESSION U.S. WAS CHANGING ITS POSITION ON PLO AND WAS NOW IN FAVOR OF PLO PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA. HABIB EXPLAINED WE WOULD MAKE CLEAR U.S. POSITION ON PLO HAD NOT CHANGED WHEN ANSWERING QUESTIONS. TEXT WAS STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY ON A POINT ABOUT WHICH THERE HAD BEEN MANY INQUIRIES AND HAD BEEN DECIDED ON AT HIGH LEVEL. DINITZ SAID HE WOULD PREFER TO SEE EXPLICIT STATEMENT INCLUDED TO MAKE CLEAR U.S. POSITION ON PLO HAD NOT CHANGED. HABIB REPLIED  
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HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO AMEND TEXT, BUT U.S. POSITION ON PLO REMAINED THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO TALK WITH THEM IF THEY ACCEPT 242 AND THE RIGHT OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA TO EXIST, WHICH CLEARLY INCLUDES ISRAEL. HABIB ADDED THAT IF DINITZ RECEIVED INSTRUCTION ON SUBJECT BY NEXT MORNING, HABIB WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO HEAR FROM DINITZ, BUT HE COULD NOT OFFER ANY ASSURANCE THAT TEXT COULD BE AMENDED. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 217579  
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DRAFTED BY: UNA/BJSHRAP

APPROVED BY: UNA/JFTEFFT

S/S-O TMARTIN

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O 121635Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217579

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM TEL AVIV DTD 11 SEP 1977 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217579

EXDIS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WSMITH:LL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 0b208648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1314847  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, XF, US  
**To:** TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009